



The Old Ironsides Report



Saturday, March 27, 2004

545 MP Co. Soldier, Mom serve together on Camp Victory

Story by Pfc. Alma H. Barrus, 122nd MPAD
BAGHDAD, Iraq --For most Soldiers serving in Iraq, the only contact they have with their families is to write letters and e-mails or go to the phone center.

One lucky Soldier in the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, had the rare opportunity to see his mother in person at Camp Victory, Baghdad.

The "Blackjack" brigade is part of Task Force 1st Armored Division.

"I was told I would be working out of the Baghdad International Airport (BIAP), and later I found out that I would be staying at Camp Victory," said Department of the Army Civilian Sheila Lowell, working for the Army Material Command. "And, I said I think I know someone who's there"

She is also the mother of Sgt. Matthew Lowell, 2nd Platoon, 545th Military Police Company.

"AMC said they needed help with accountability for the contractors when I was at Fort Monmouth, N.J., and I volunteered to go and eventually got here," she said.

"I love the military life wherever I go ... and being able to see my son is a true blessing," said Mrs. Lowell.

"We're still not sure if she is staying here with BIAP closing down ... but the chances that we would even run into each other over here is pretty slim, and we're thankful for it," said. Sgt. Lowell.

Military service is an integral part of the Lowell family. Mrs. Lowell grew up as an "Army Brat" and served in the Army 30 years ago. Her husband, Bill Lowell, retired in 1988 after serving 22 years in the Army. He worked in Kuwait as a DA civilian in March 2003.



Sgt. Matthew Lowell, 545th Military Police Company, 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, and his mother, Department of the Army Civilian Sheila Lowell, are serving together on Camp Victory.

Reenlistment bonus available until soldiers depart Theater

More than 1,650 soldiers have taken advantage of the deployed force reenlistment bonus since October.

Soldiers must understand the bonus is no longer available once they redeploy to their home station. Once a soldier leaves Iraq, Afghanistan, or Kuwait, the lump sum tax-free bonus no longer exists.

As we begin to redeploy, our Career Counselors and key retention personnel will become much less accessible as they will be spread thin throughout Iraq, Kuwait, and Germany.

Soldiers eligible for this incentive are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity well in advance of their expected redeployment date.

For more information, contact your career counselor.

NEWS...

Rebels Blow Up an Oil Well in North Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Insurgents bombed an oil well in northern Iraq, sparking a fire that raged for 24 hours before being extinguished. West of Baghdad, U.S. Marines and gunmen fought an hour-long battle Friday that left four Iraqis dead and six wounded, a doctor said. The fighting occurred in the town of Fallujah.

FBI's Mueller Warns of Terrorist Plots

WASHINGTON (AP) - The deadly train bombings in Spain and the impact they had on Spanish elections are increasing concern that terrorists might target the U.S. presidential nominating conventions and the Olympics to make an even bolder statement, FBI Director Robert Mueller says. "We understand that between now and the election, there is a window of time in which terrorists may well wish to influence events, whether it's in the United States or overseas."

White House Asks 9/11 Panel to Meet Rice

WASHINGTON (AP) - Trying to blunt allegations the Bush administration mishandled terror threats before Sept. 11, the White House is offering to let President Bush's top national security aide meet privately for a second time with a federal panel investigating the terrorist attacks. The White House said Thursday to the independent Sept. 11 commission that such a session would allow Condoleezza Rice to clear up "a number of mischaracterizations" of her statements and positions.

2 Palestinians Killed Attacking From Sea

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) - Armed Palestinians in wetsuits and flippers emerged from the Mediterranean and fired toward a beachfront Israeli settlement in the Gaza Strip Friday. Two attackers were killed, and a third was wounded and fled. The Islamic militant group Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack on the Tel Katifa settlement in Gaza. Hamas has threatened to carry out attacks on Israelis to avenge the assassination of its founder, Sheik Ahmed Yassin.

Thought for the day...

Leadership

Lao Tzu wrote in Tao Te Ching, "A leader is best when people barely know he exists. Not so good when people obey and acclaim him. Worse when they despise him.

Fail to honor people, and they will fail to honor you. But of a good leader, who talks little, when his work is done and his aim fulfilled, they will all say, "We did this ourselves."

In other news...

Woman Asks State to Return Bribe Money

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) -- When Rebecca Messier asked for her money back, she drew snickers from the courtroom crowd. The cash she requested was \$8,500 from a failed bribe to a prosecutor that got her and her husband arrested.

Messier appeared in Hartford Superior Court on Thursday to argue that she is entitled to the money she gave a bagman for a crooked prosecutor six years ago.

The bagman was to give the money to the prosecutor, who was to argue for the early release from prison of Messier's husband, convicted child molester Joseph Messier.

The Messiers got in trouble because the prosecutor wasn't on the take, and the bagman was an undercover investigator with the chief state's attorney's office.

Joseph Messier, 64, pleaded guilty to bribery in December 1998 and was sentenced to four years in prison, concurrent with his sex assault sentence. He was released after serving less than six years behind bars for molesting two children.

Rebecca Messier was also charged with bribery, but she was granted a special form of probation that resulted in the charges being erased from her record.

Rebecca Messier now wants the state to return her money, which was found in a safe at the chief state's attorney's office in Rocky Hill in December. Her lawyer, James Armentano, filed a motion that was heard in court Wednesday.

"You want the money back?" a disbelieving Judge Elliot N. Solomon said.

Armentano said there is "a real basis" for the return of the money, because there was a renunciation of the bribery act by Rebecca Messier. In criminal law, renunciation occurs when a person voluntarily and completely abandons his intent to commit a crime, before the crime occurs.

Solomon agreed to hear arguments on the motion next month.

Still, he cautioned Messier and Armentano: "I wouldn't bring a bankbook with you. I don't think you're going to be bringing it back."

McDonald's to Start Taking Credit Cards

OAK BROOK, Ill. (AP) -- McDonald's customers will soon be able to use credit and debit cards to pay for their meals at a majority of the chain's U.S. restaurants.

The company said Thursday it had reached agreements to accept payments via Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card and STAR cards.

Cashless payments, primarily debit cards, already are accepted at more than 3,000 of McDonald's 13,600 U.S. restaurants. The company said Thursday it intends to more than double that number this year to as many as 8,000 restaurants.

McDonald's franchisees, who operate 80 percent of its U.S. outlets, must pay fees to the credit-card companies for each transaction, but they also could see an increase in sales by offering customers the cashless option.

Participating McDonald's will post the credit card logos at their counters and drive-thrus.

Today in History...

March 27, 1958: KHRUSHCHEV BECOMES SOVIET PREMIER

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) On March 27, 1958, Soviet First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev replaces Nicolay Bulganin as Soviet premier, becoming the first leader since Joseph Stalin to simultaneously hold the USSR's two top offices.

Khrushchev, born into a Ukrainian peasant family in 1894, worked as a mine mechanic before joining the Soviet Communist Party in 1918. In 1929, he went to Moscow and steadily rose in the party ranks and in 1938 was made first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party. He became a close associate of Joseph Stalin, the authoritative leader of the Soviet Union since 1924. In 1953, Stalin died, and Khrushchev grappled with Stalin's chosen successor, Georgy Malenkov, for the position of first secretary of the Communist Party. Khrushchev won the power struggle, and Malenkov was made premier, a more ceremonial post. In 1955, Malenkov was replaced by Bulganin, Khrushchev's hand-picked nominee.

In 1956, Khrushchev denounced Stalin and his totalitarian policies at the 20th Party Congress, leading to a "thaw" in the USSR that saw the release of millions of political prisoners. Almost immediately, the new atmosphere of freedom led to anti-Soviet uprisings in Poland and Hungary. Khrushchev flew to Poland and negotiated a diplomatic solution, but the Hungarian rebellion was crushed by Warsaw Pact troops and tanks.

Khrushchev's program of de-Stalinization was opposed by some hard-liners in the Communist Party, and in June 1957 he was nearly ousted from his position as first secretary. After a brief struggle, he secured the removal of Malenkov and the other top party members who had opposed him and in 1958 prepared to take on the post of premier. On March 27, 1958, the Supreme Soviet--the Soviet legislature--voted unanimously to make First Secretary Khrushchev also Soviet premier, thus formally recognizing him as the undisputed leader of the USSR.

In foreign affairs, Premier Khrushchev's stated policy was one of "peaceful coexistence" with the West. He said, "we offer the capitalist countries peaceful competition" and gave the Soviet Union an early lead in the space race by launching the first Soviet satellites and cosmonauts. A visit to the United States by Khrushchev in 1959 was hailed as a new high in U.S.-Soviet relations, but superpower relations would hit dangerous new lows in the early 1960s.

In 1960, Khrushchev walked out of a long-awaited four-powers summit over the U-2 affair, and in 1961 he authorized construction of the Berlin Wall as a drastic solution to the East German question. Then, in October 1962, the United States and the USSR came close to nuclear war over the USSR's placement of nuclear missiles in Cuba. After 13 tense days, the Cuban Missile Crisis came to an end when Khrushchev agreed to withdraw the offensive weapons in exchange for a secret U.S. pledge not to invade Cuba.

The humiliating resolution of the Cuban Missile Crisis, an agricultural crisis at home, and the deterioration of Soviet-Chinese relations over Khrushchev's moderate policies all led to growing opposition to Khrushchev in the party ranks.

On October 14, 1964, Leonid Brezhnev, Khrushchev's protégé and deputy, organized a successful coup against him, and Khrushchev abruptly stepped down as first secretary and premier. He retired to obscurity outside Moscow and lived there until his death in 1971.



CONTACT YOUR UNIT VOTING ASSISTANCE OFFICER
TO FIND OUT HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE
AND RECEIVE YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT

The following are upcoming Presidential and State Primaries:

April: Pennsylvania

May: Indiana, North Carolina, Nebraska, West Virginia, Arkansas, Kentucky, Oregon, Idaho

June: Alabama, New Mexico, S. Dakota, Iowa, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, North Dakota, S. Carolina, Virginia, Utah

July: Georgia, Oklahoma

August: Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Tennessee, Colorado, Connecticut, Wyoming, Alaska, Florida

September: Guam, Arizona, Nevada, Delaware, Virgin Islands, District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin, Hawaii, Louisiana

November: American Samoa, **2004 GENERAL ELECTION (NOVEMBER 2)**

Unit VAO's can direct questions to the Division VAO, CPT Morgan, at DNV 551-0311

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March 27, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2004

As of: Friday, March 26, 2004 10:00:50 PM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00		HEADLINE NEWS	WALKING WITH DINOSAURS - GIANT OF THE SKIES			00:00
00:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	WALKING WITH PREHISTORIC BEASTS (TVG): - NEXT OF KIN		HEADLINE NEWS	00:30
01:00			BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (TV14): - THE GIFT	BOB THE BUILDER	LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		JOJO'S CIRCUS (TVY): - COTTON ANDY/NIGHTY NIGHT		01:30
02:00	SPORTSCENTER		IRON CHEF (TVPG): - TOFU/CHEN VS CHIYO CHO	CHALKZONE (TVY): - THE SMOOCH / POWER PLAY / ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS (TVY): - SORRY WRONG ERA	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	SPORTSCENTER	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - SWEET SIXTEEN: TEXAS VS XAVIER; ILLINOIS VS DUKE	THE VIEW (TVPG):	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - SWEET SIXTEEN: UAB VS KANSAS	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30	NBA SHOOTAROUND				CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00	NBA - DALLAS MAVERICKS @ MIAMI HEAT		WHAT NOT TO WEAR (TVPG): - LARRY		COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	04:00
05:00			WHILE YOU WERE OUT (TVPG): - CALIFORNIA: LAMBETH LANE		HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
05:30				MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - SWEET SIXTEEN: GEORGIA TECH VS NEVADA		05:30
06:00			TRADING SPACES (TVG): - SEATTLE: 56TH PLACE		THE NEWSHOUR	06:00
06:30	NBA - MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES @ LOS ANGELES LAKERS					06:30
07:00			GILMORE GIRLS (TVPG): - THOSE ARE STRINGS, PINOCCHIO		BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:30					NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00		HEADLINE NEWS	THE DIVISION (TVPG): - MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS	WWE RAW! (TV14):	LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:30		HEADLINE NEWS				08:30
09:00	SPORTSCENTER	BOB THE BUILDER	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS	HEADLINE NEWS	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30		JOJO'S CIRCUS (TVY): - COTTON ANDY/NIGHTY NIGHT		NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS		09:30
10:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	CHALKZONE (TVY): - THE SMOOCH / POWER PLAY / ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP		IN THE MIX - LIVING WITH...	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30	ESPNEWS	JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS (TVY): - SORRY WRONG ERA		HOW TO BOIL WATER (TVG): - FISH TALES		10:30
11:00	FRIDAY NIGHT FIGHTS - WELTERWEIGHTS: OSCAR DIAZ VS EBO ELDER	YU-GI-OH! (TVY7): - YUGI VS. PEGASUS: MATCH OF THE MILLENNIUM (PT. 4)	THE VIEW (TVPG):	ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT (TVPG):	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30		ROMEO (TVY): - SLAM DUNK			ARMY NEWSWATCH	11:30
12:00		LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - GORDO'S VIDEO	WHAT NOT TO WEAR (TVPG): - LARRY	HEADLINE NEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30		THAT'S SO RAVEN (TVY7): - FIGHT TO THE OPERA		ESPNEWS		12:30
13:00		IN THE MIX - LIVING WITH...	WHILE YOU WERE OUT (TVPG): - CALIFORNIA: LAMBETH LANE	MY WIFE AND KIDS (TVPG): - JR. EXECUTIVE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:30	SPORTSCENTER	HOW TO BOIL WATER (TVG): - FISH TALES		ACCORDING TO JIM (TVPG): - NO HARM NO FOWL		13:30
14:00		ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT (TVPG):	TRADING SPACES (TVG): - SEATTLE: 56TH PLACE	THE WEST WING (TVPG): - JEFFERSON LIVES	DATELINE NBC	14:00
14:30	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT					14:30
15:00	NBA - MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES @ LOS ANGELES LAKERS	WWE RAW! (TV14):	GILMORE GIRLS (TVPG): - THOSE ARE STRINGS, PINOCCHIO	LAW & ORDER (TV14): - BLAZE		15:00
16:00		MY WIFE AND KIDS (TVPG): - JR. EXECUTIVE	THE DIVISION (TVPG): - MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS	HEADLINE NEWS	CNN LIVE	16:00
16:30		ACCORDING TO JIM (TVPG): - NO HARM NO FOWL		SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE (03'-04') (TV14): - JESSICA SIMPSON AND NICK LACHEY/G-UNIT		16:30
17:00	SPORTSCENTER	THE WEST WING (TVPG): - JEFFERSON LIVES	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS		SATURDAY TODAY	17:00
18:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	LAW & ORDER (TV14): - BLAZE		LIVE IN HOLLYWOOD (TVPG):		18:00
18:30	GILLETTE WORLD SPORT					18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	THE VIEW (TVPG):	THE ENTERTAINERS (TVPG):	WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORT	19:00
19:30		NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS			AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM	19:30
20:00	REAL SPORTS WITH BRYANT GUMBEL	ESPNEWS	WHAT NOT TO WEAR (TVPG): - LARRY	HEADLINE NEWS	DATELINE NBC	20:00
20:30		ROAD TO THE FINAL FOUR		HOOR OF POWER - GOD'S GLAD SUPRISSES		20:30
21:00	ESPNEWS	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP: SOUTHERN INDIANA VS KENNESAW STATE	WHILE YOU WERE OUT (TVPG): - CALIFORNIA: LAMBETH LANE	CELEBRATION OF VICTORY - FROM THERE ...		21:00
21:30	NHL - LOS ANGELES KINGS @ CALGARY FLAMES			CORAL RIDGE HOUR - EQUIPPING THE SAINTS		21:30
22:00			TRADING SPACES (TVG): - SEATTLE: 56TH PLACE	CHRISTOPHER CLOSEUP - THE RYAN PROJECT	HEADLINE NEWS	22:00
22:30				CAFE VIDEO - I SAW HEAVEN	ARMY NEWSWATCH	22:30
23:00			GILMORE GIRLS (TVPG): - THOSE ARE STRINGS, PINOCCHIO	HEADLINE NEWS	FOX NEWS LIVE	23:00
23:30		ROAD TO THE FINAL FOUR		ARMY NEWSWATCH		23:30